

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 04668 141256Z

53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-15 CCO-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00 SS-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 ACDA-19 OC-06 OMB-01 DRC-01 /157 W

----- 100524

O R 141240Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 349

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

COMNAVTRACOM KENITRA

COMNAVCOMMSTA SIDI YAHIA

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4668

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFOR XF XI MO

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN SITREP, NINTH DAY

1. OCT 14 SEMI-OFFICIAL LE MATIN CARRIES SHARPEST
ATTACK ON US TO DATE. HEADLINES SAY QUOTE US SIXTH
FLEET BOMBERS ATTACK SYRIA UNQUOTE. ACCOMPANYING STORY
SPEAKS OMINOUSLY OF QUOTE INTOLERABLE INTERVENTION
AND INTERFERENCE ... WHICH WILL SURELY HAVE PROFOUND
CONSEQUENCES ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND ALL
PEACE AND JUSTICE LOVING COUNTRIES UNQUOTE. COVERAGE
IN GOVERNMENT-LINE AL ANBA LESS EXTREME, BUT SMALLER
HEADLINES SAY QUOTE AMERICA POURS ITS FORCES TO
ISRAELI SIDE UNQUOTE. ISTIQLALI AL ALAM IS RELATIVELY
RESTRAINED, WITH EDITORIAL BASED ON AL FASSI TELEGRAM
TO PRESIDENT NIXON ASKING US TO CEASE SUPPORT OF ISRAEL.
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TONE OF COVERAGE IN ISTIQLAL'S L'OPINION SOMEWHAT LESS

VIOLENT THAN YESTERDAY, PERHAPS REFLECTING EMBOFF'S
CALL ON PARTY FIGURE CLOSE TO AL FASSI OCT 12.

2. RUMORS THAT CASUALTIES WERE HEAVY AMONG MOROCCAN
FORCES ENGAGED IN GOLAN FIGHTING ARE CIRCULATING, AND
MAY BE CONTRIBUTING TO RAISING TEMPERATURE. NEWS THAT
NUMBER OF MOROCCANS HAVE BEEN CAPTURED MAY ALSO AGITATE
PEOPLE. TOWN REMAINS GENERALLY CALM, HOWEVER.

3. WE MAKING ENERGETIC EFFORTS GET MCCLOSKEY DENIALS
ON RECORD LOCALLY. UNFORTUNATELY, MOST POLITICALLY
IMPORTANT RABATIS UNAVAILABLE ON RAMADAN SUNDAY.

4. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT LINE FOLLOWED BY LE MATIN
REPRESENTS GOM DECISION LET US HAVE IT WITH BOTH
BARRELS, PERHAPS AS DEVICE TO LET OFF STEAM, BUT
PERHAPS AS PRELUDE TAKING SOME ACTION AGAINST US,
SUCH AS CLOSING DOWN COMMUNICATIONS STATION AT SIDI
YAHYA. WE HAVE NO OVERT INDICATION OF THIS FROM
MOROCCANS CONTACTS, HOWEVER, AND EVERYTHING CONTINUES
NORMAL ON SURFACE.

PARKER

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